

System and method for searching/finding and contacting dates on the Internet in instant messaging networks and/or in other methods that enable immediate finding and creating immediate contact.

Important Notice:

The priority date for this patent starts from June 22, 2000 in Israel, and a PCT application that was submitted on June. 24, 2001 (22-23 were non-working days).

Abstract

When searching for new people, the current instant messaging networks typically allow users to search mainly by name or by e-mail and some of them also by interests, although one of them (Odigo) allows to search also by sex, age, area, languages, occupation & interests. However, to the best of the inventor's knowledge there is no way to systematically search in these networks for compatible dates by attributes such as education, general background, appearance, attitudes, and personality, or by reciprocal compatibility in any of the above mentioned attributes. This is a waste of a huge potential since some of these networks already have more than dozens of millions of people. Also, Odigo allows searching by only among people currently connected, which means that highly compatible dates can be missed just because they don't happen to be connected at exactly the time of the search. The present invention is a novel concept which applies computer dating to the context of instant messaging, in a systematic and flexible way that to the best of the inventor's knowledge has never been done before. This system and method enable the user to search and find instantly compatible dates in instant messaging networks on the basis of attribute search or 1-way compatibility search or 2-way compatibility search instead of being limited to search only by the limited options described above, and to search either for potential dates that are currently Online or Offline, and also take advantage of many additional features, and especially features that are based on improved integration between computer dating and instant messaging.

[illegible]